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Journal

Office of Legislative Counsel

Wednesday - 4 April 1956

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1. In a series of conversations with Mr. Sprague, General Counsel of the Defense Department, discussed the problem of the intelligence briefings on Russian air strength and capabilities before the Symington Subcommittee. The status is that Mr. Sprague is going to check with Adm. Radford as to whether he would be willing to testify jointly with Mr. Dulles. Messrs. Hamilton and Potts, of the Subcommittee staff, have both expressed a desire to hear Mr. Dulles, and not an Air Force intelligence officer, and they have asked for an appointment with the Director on Friday afternoon of this week. The present tentative schedule of the Committee calls for intelligence briefings to begin on April 13.

2. Was informed by Mr. Huskey, of the staff of the House Government Operations Committee, that the Committee was to hold hearings on S. 2591, H.R. 6568 and H.R. 7339, all dealing with the disposal of surplus property. S. 2591, which has passed the Senate, permits the President to exempt agencies by Executive Order. According to Huskey there will be strong opposition in the House to this kind of a blanket authority. He has requested, and I have passed the request to Gen. Graham, that CIA furnish information as follows:

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All figures are to be in terms of acquisition cost and the return to the Agency. This request only relates to property disposed of domestically.

3. The Director talked to Senator Saltonstall over the phone about the Mansfield Resolution. Sen. Saltonstall advised that there is virtually no chance of blocking passage of the bill in the Senate. For this reason, the Senator feels that it might be well to avoid a roll call vote.

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